OGILVY RENAULT

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Our File: 13453-2US LB:lf

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Date:	May 28, 2004
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To	Company	City	Fax
ART UNIT 1644 Examiner: Phillip Gambel	United States Patent Office – **Technology Center 1600**	Alexandria, VA	(703) 872-9306

Dear Dr Gambel:

RE: United States Patent Application No. 09/579,548
Title : METHOD FOR INHIBITING IN VIVO IMMUNE RESPONSE
Inventors/
Applicants: LAZARUS, Alan H. et al.
Assignee : Canadian Blood Services

We first thank the Examiner for our discussion of Friday, May 14, 2004 regarding the claims of the above-referenced application.

Further to our discussion, please find enclosed a proposed set of amended claims for the Examiner's review.

All the claims now specify that the alloimmune response is an anti-HLA response. This amendment clearly renders the scope of the claimed subject matter consistent with the disclosure.

With respect to the issue surrounding the agonist *v.* antagonist nature of the 18 KDa recombinant human CD40L recited in the claims, we kindly refer the Examiner to our response to a previous office action dated May 26, 2000 in which it is specified that the 18 KDa recombinant human CD40L is an antagonist and therefore would produce the desired results including for the diseases recited in claim 30.

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We kindly ask the Examiner to review the proposed amended claims, which applicant believe to be in a form acceptable for allowance, and to provide his opinion concerning the proposed claims by communicating with the undersigned.

Yours, very truly

Luc Bérubé, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 55,968

Claims 1-23(Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A method for inhibiting an anti-HLA alloimmune response in a patient comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble 18KDa recombinant human CD40L consisting of amino acids 108 to 261 set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, containing the active binding site of CD40 and capable of binding thereto.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Cancelled):

Claim 27 (Previously Amended): A method for inhibiting T cell function in an anti-HLA alloimmune response in a patient, comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble 18KDa recombinant human CD40L consisting of amino acids 108 to 261 of sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 containing the active binding site of CD40 and capable of binding thereto.

Claim 28 (Cancelled)

Claim 29 (Cancelled)

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A ~~The~~ method for inhibiting an anti-HLA alloimmune response ~~of claim 27,~~ for treating or preventing a disease selected from the group consisting of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), Sjörgen's syndrome, scleroderma myositis, Raynaud's syndrome, type 1 diabetes, arthritis and rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, uveitis,

myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura and graft vs host disease as well as allergies which are dependent on T cells, said method comprising the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble 18KDa recombinant human CD40L consisting of amino acids 108 to 261 of sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 containing the active binding site of CD40 and capable of binding thereto.

Claims 31-33 (Cancelled)